

Consolidated ownership of the media means POWER. The power to shape, form and control opinion, because no alternative voice may be available. The power to make huge profits and the power that such money gives. Already such money/power has led to problems with political fundraising on the national, state, and local levels. "All power corrupts, absolute power corrupts absolutely." As more and more control of information is consolidated the effect of the abuse of power grows. There is no alternative voice to off-set it or give another perspective.

As media control shifts to distant national organizations local issues are neglected and our communities suffer, and with it our democracy. Already many places are suffering from this removal from local control. The trend should be reversed, not accelerated. I strongly urge you not to allow further consolidation of the media and the power it grants.